

To Whom It May Concern:

EXHIBIT 4
DATE 9/4/11
SB 253

My name is Robert Curran and I am the Head of Development for BASE Productions Inc. I was also the Executive Producer of LAST AMERICAN COWBOY, a TV series for Animal Planet shot entirely on-location in Montana. It was a great pleasure to work in your state and meet the incredible people there. We are very proud of the end result, which featured three family ranches and demonstrated the amazing spirit, fortitude and can-do work ethic of Montanans to a worldwide audience.

However, while Montana was the perfect setting for the series from the outset, our artistic vision was forced to take a backseat to the budgetary considerations of a large-scale project like LAST AMERICAN COWBOY. Like any business, the bottom line drives our decision-making process. We always preferred Montana as the most interesting story-wise and visually, but we also scouted many other states, including Wyoming, Colorado, Texas – and even California. In the end, the winning combination of economic incentives and unmatched service from the Montana Film Office, in addition to the creative reasons, sealed the deal for your state. Without the Big Sky on the Big Screen incentives, we would've been forced to compromise our vision and shoot the series elsewhere. Fortunately, that scenario didn't happen.

Now I'm told that the Big Sky on the Big Screen Act is in jeopardy of being terminated. As a producer, I would urge you to consider the implications. The film and television industry, like all industries, is under constant pressure to find the best deal on everything: resources, personnel and locations. More and more, locations that don't provide incentives are not even being considered. A producer's job is to be creative. If the bottom line doesn't work in one location, we find creative ways to shoot elsewhere. So-called "cheating" locations – substituting one place for another and making it look like the real thing – is common practice. There's nothing to stop a producer from shooting in another state or even another country and calling it "Montana" – except a competitive incentive program.

In difficult times, I'm sure something like film and TV incentives sounds like an easy cut. But please consider that economic development through film and television requires very little investment compared to the benefits. No roads or services need to be built. No environmental impact studies need to be conducted. No expansion of government is required. Yet this industry spends billions of "found" dollars throughout the country each year. Montana deserves its slice of that pie.

We are huge supporters of your state and frequently recommend it to other producers and directors. We're looking to come back to Montana in the near future with another series. In order to make it past the bean counters, we'll need to be able to make the case that the state is still a financially friendly place for production. We sincerely hope that you will keep it that way.

Regards,

Robert M. Curran
Head of Development
BASE Productions Inc.

BASE
PRODUCTIONS